



**Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Monday, November 24, 2014  
5:00-6:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

Welcome and call to order at 5:10 PM

Board Members In Attendance: Chad Galts, Martin Huntley, Rick Richards, Nicky Nichtern, Ellen Foley, Robin Warde, Nancy Levitt-Vieira and Anna Cano Morales.

Absent: Kathy Cloutier

Staff in Attendance: Julie Nora

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Eric Darsow, who was present as an observer representing the non-profit Rhode Island Is Ready ([www.riisready.org](http://www.riisready.org)), gave a brief introduction to his organization.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- The minutes of the previous meeting of October 27, 2014 were unanimously approved.
- Lillian Picchione's nomination to the Expansion Committee was unanimously approved.
- Motion to post minutes and supporting documents to the Secretary of State's web site henceforth for all Board and Board committee meetings was unanimously approved.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- Development Committee: Committee last met in October.
  - Fund-raising appeal to Board members is usual at this time, and will be done soon. One suggestion to consider: allow a pay-per-month option.
  - Request to Rhode Island Foundation for a part-time position to support Board activities and development can be submitted in 2015.
- Academic Committee: Met 11/3/14.
  - Reviewed the Strategic Plan, raising questions for discussion at the mid-year retreat.

- Next meeting: Monday, December 1, 2014 at 4:30 pm.
- Finance Committee: Met November 24, 2014.
  - Reminded us that we are running a deficit, which is projected to be ~\$30K if we maintain current rate of spending.
  - Wants to coordinate with Development Committee to review development funding actions.
  - Wants to work on a business plan.
- Governance Committee: Met in November.
  - Wants more overlap/coordination with Development Committee – at least, coordination of meeting schedules. Question: should Governance and Development be merged into one committee?
  - Work continues on seeking new members for the Board, with a strong interest in adding legal expertise.
- Health & Wellness Committee: Did not meet in the last month.
  - Chad has begun representing the Board on this committee.
  - Thanksgiving “Turkey Trot” team races are planned.
  - 5<sup>th</sup>. graders won an essay competition in the NFL-sponsored Fuel Up To Play 60 initiative – 20 students will be going to Gillette Stadium.
- Expansion Committee: Met 11/14/14.
  - We are broadening our site search geographically.
  - Various sites are under consideration, with funding possibilities and environmental reviews being the focus of significant activity by Eric and Julie.
  - We have submitted a request to the City of Providence for 90-day exclusivity for the Windmill site. It’s unlikely that we’ll get a reply until the new administration is in place.
  - There was discussion of potential differences in the funding we might be able to secure from LISC as contrasted with Civic Builders. In particular, LISC might be more amenable to a phased site development that would be in sync with the planned phasing of growth in enrollment.
- Evaluation Committee: No new report.

## DISCUSSION/REPORTS

- School staff gave two presentations, on social and emotional learning and on writing instruction, at the La Cosecha conference in November in New Mexico.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Local and national representatives of LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation) will visit the school on December 8, 2014. Julie encouraged Board members to participate if possible, and will let us know details later.

Next Board meeting: December 15, 2014, 5:00-6:30 pm.

By unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 6:04pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Martin Huntley